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AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1-15 (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) A method of anchoring a prosthesis structure to a joint end of an articulatory part of a joint in a human or animal body, said prosthesis structure comprising an engagement element which presents a flat or substantially flat engagement surface and an elongate fixture having a major axis and being connected to and spaced from the engagement surface, the method comprising the steps of:

forming a flat or substantially flat joint end bone surface at said joint end;

forming a bore through said joint end, wherein the bore has a longitudinal axis which inclines away from the joint end bone surface at an acute angle, and wherein the bore is provided at a distance from said joint end bone surface;

forming a slot between the joint end bone surface and the bore; and

inserting said elongate fixture along said major axis into the bore so that said engagement surface is brought into **a first contact** [engagement] with said joint end bone surface **at an intermediate insertion position; and**

further displacing the elongate fixture along the longitudinal axis of the bore to bring the engagement surface from the intermediate insertion position to a final anchored position.

17. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the prosthesis structure further comprises a rib element connecting the elongate fixture and the engagement element and the step of inserting said elongate fixture further comprises inserting said rib element into said slot.

Claims 18-21 Canceled

22. (Previously presented) A method of anchoring a prosthesis structure to a joint end of an articulatory part of a joint in a human or animal body, said prosthesis structure comprising an engagement element which presents a flat or substantially flat engagement surface and an elongate fixture having a major axis and being connected to and spaced from the engagement surface, the method comprising:

forming a flat or substantially flat joint end bone surface at said joint end;

forming a bore through said joint end at a distance from said joint end bone surface;

bringing the engagement surface of the prosthesis structure into a first contact with the joint end bone surface at an intermediate insertion position of the prosthesis structure by inserting the elongate fixture along said major axis into said bore and in such manner that said major axis inclines away from the joint end bone surface at an acute angle; and thereafter

further inserting the elongate fixture, along said major axis and at said acute angle, from said intermediate position of the prosthesis structure to a final anchored position of the prosthesis structure, wherein said further inserting of the elongate fixture compresses the complementary joint end bone surface against the engagement surface.

23. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the step of further inserting the elongate fixture from said intermediate insertion position to said final anchored position comprises displacing the engagement surface in a direction generally parallel with the joint end bone surface.

24. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the bore has a longitudinal axis which inclines away from the joint end bone surface at an acute angle, and wherein said elongate fixture is inserted along said major axis into the bore so as to bring said engagement surface into engagement with said joint end bone surface.

25. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 16 or 22, wherein said acute angle is greater than or equal to 1°.

26. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 16 or 22, wherein said acute angle is less than or equal to 5°.

27. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 16 or 22, wherein said acute angle is within a range of 1° to 3°.

28. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein said bore is a first bore and the method further comprises forming, at a distance from said joint end bone surface, at least one additional bore extending generally in parallel with said first bore for receiving a corresponding number of elongate fixtures.

29. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 28, wherein said slot is a first slot and the method further comprises forming an additional slot between each additional bore and the joint end bone surface.

30. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein said bore is a first bore and the method further comprises:

forming, at a distance from said joint end bone surface, at least one additional bore extending generally in parallel with said first bore for receiving a corresponding number of additional elongate fixtures; and

forming a slot between each bore and the joint end bone surface.

31. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the bore is formed relative to the joint end bone surface such that the bore is inclined at an inclination angle relative to a main articulation plane of said joint.

32. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 31, wherein the inclination angle is within a range of 10° to 45°.

33. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the inclination angle is approximately 20°.

34. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the bore is formed relative to the joint end bone surface such that the bore is inclined at an inclination angle relative to a main articulation plane of said joint.

35. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 34, wherein the inclination angle is within a range of 10° to 45°.

36. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 35, wherein the inclination angle is approximately 20°.

37. Canceled

38. (Previously presented) A method of anchoring a prosthesis structure to a joint end of an articulatory part of a joint in a human or animal body, said prosthesis structure comprising an engagement element which presents a flat or substantially flat engagement surface and an elongate fixture having a major axis and being connected to and spaced from the engagement surface, the method comprising:

forming a flat or substantially flat joint end bone surface at said joint end;

forming a bore through said joint end, the bore having a longitudinal axis, wherein the bore is provided at a distance from said joint end bone surface and wherein said longitudinal axis inclines away from the joint end bone surface at an acute angle; and

anchoring the prosthesis to the joint end by the steps comprising:

inserting said elongate fixture along said major axis into the bore so that said engagement surface approaches said joint end bone surface at an acute angle and is brought into engagement with said joint end bone surface at an intermediate insertion position of the prosthesis structure, and thereafter

further displacing the elongate fixture, along the bore, from said intermediate insertion position to a final anchored position of the prosthesis structure, wherein the step of further displacing the elongate fixture compresses the complementary joint end bone surface against the engagement surface.